

maintained a respectful demeanor. He never became familiar with her because he could not overcome a certain feeling of mysterious reverence which he possessed towards her. She seemed so far above him with her pure angelic nature and sweet-tempered disposition; so unlike anyone he had ever known. Fearful that harm might come to her, he watched her carefully and very often followed her when she went out alone. More than once, coming up unexpectedly, he had found her kneeling in the lofty forest with her beautiful eyes turned towards heaven and with such a reverential expression on her delicate countenance that he stole away quietly as one who had entered unbidden into a sanctified place and believed himself unworthy to contemplate its mysteries. A suspicion began to enter into his untutored and superstitious mind that she might be the daughter of Manito.

All that I have mentioned in the foregoing, regarding White Rose and her associates, I learned long after the events which I am about to relate took place. At the time our story opens, a number of men with their families wished to start a colony somewhere along the Mississippi. These men obtained from the State of Pennsylvania two hundred soldiers to accompany and protect them in their dangerous undertaking. Amongst these soldiers were three, of whom we must make special mention. These were, two brothers, Lawrence and Gerald and their close friend Conan. They were all three natives of Ireland. Taught from their earliest childhood to revere the Catholic Religion, they had been good practical Catholics until their immigration to the New World, the land of progress and wealth. Here they found a majority of the men too deeply engrossed in their struggles to amass great riches to bother with the burden of religion which they left to the women and children who, in turn, dispensed with it also. Others they met with who were, at least in their own opinion, far too enlightened to believe in the conservative superstitions of old-country peasants. Everything that savored of Catholicism was zealously hated. So the three